

**Marion Road Trunk Sanitary Sewer Project – Alternative Urban Areawide Review
Summary of Comments Received After the 11/1/01 Public Open House**

- 1) “I thought the meeting was very informative and worthwhile. Actually I expected, as I have been for some time, that this meeting would be the time when plans for additional sanitary sewers would be announced. So I was a little surprised that this was a study, that it was required by the MPCA and that it was being done in an effort to control or channel future growth. That said, I was very impressed with the thoroughness and depth of the planning and the attempt to get going early before any additional development occurs. Thanks.” – Bruce Bjorgum
- 2) “Sinkholes treated as ‘moderate constraint on development’ in Marion AUAR. Brian Smith not on mailing list. Industrial zoning shown as low density residential – existing use [is] industrial; also quarry and land owner [of] quarry owns [thought not completed]” – Peter Allan Vetsch, Inc.
- 3) “The citations for the natural resources inventory work are probably not completely accurate. The land cover classifications (e.g., known or likely prairie remnants) were done by the Committee on Urban Design and Environment. It’s not a matter of wanting or needing credit for the work. I’m just concerned that someone may say ‘this isn’t DNR data’ ”. – Lee Ganske
- 4) “I would like to see more apartment homes built than single family homes. Farm land will be needed to produce food for all the increased population in future years. Real Estate land is not free. Some one owns it. We real estate property owners pay taxes for it. It is not free. All Veterans of the wars in the past and today have paid for it. We can not give land to People of other Countries free. I paid for my land 52 years ago and have paid land tax every year since. So land is not free like Phil Wheeler said to me. Land is free to People to come to U.S.A. There is a lot [of] room up in the air to build these up higher than to spread it out on [the] ground.” – Orville Kirkham
- 5) County Road 11 is not designed to handle many of the existing traffic problems. Multiple bus stops at the top of the hill (Rochester, Eyota & private schools, plus Rochester City Lines) where there is poor visibility, no shoulders, icing conditions, deer crossings, and cars accelerating up the hill). The road needs to be upgraded to have shoulders and designated bus pull-out areas.
Similar traffic congestion problems also exist in the area of 40th Ave. SE and Eastwood Road into the new Valley View Estates subdivision roads and the gravel road that continues east beyond Eastwood Road. These two unfinished roads are being already used as loops by school buses and consideration should be given to determine if and when they will become part of the public street system and then making appropriate accommodations for school buses.
According to current City policy, if sewer service is available to a neighborhood and a septic system fails, that party needs to connect to City sewer and water. If the property owner of the failing system is co-owner of a multi-party well, will the other well owners also be obligated to connect even if their septic systems are sound? Conversely, if the multi-party well fails and all the septic systems of the co-owners are sound, can they hook up to only water until the septic systems fail? - Mary Bearden (summarized from phone call)
- 6) Letter from Kimberly Kalli (see attached)
- 7) Letter from Zumbro Land Conservancy (see attached)

- 8) There is some concern about the project area including the undeveloped parcels in the Urban Reserve Area east of 50th Avenue. Evidently a farm has just been sold and there is interest in developing it and the effect the AUAR may have on that. - Comment made at 11/13 Town Board meeting and conveyed by Jim Baier
- 9) “After attending the AUAR meeting Thursday night I have several comments. I saw several charts on the environment, trees, soil types, grasses, roads, etc. and how development would affect the area. Too bad you did not include a chart with how development will affect our quality of life. We moved to the suburban type large lots because this is the life style we wanted. This proposed development will take this away and replace it with the city (small lots, dense population, high traffic, commercial development). Bringing existing large lots sewer and water will bring a financial hardship on many people. I thought we would get more concrete information on the sewer extensions, time lines, cost, etc. Doing an AUAR at this time is a little late. Why was it not done before any sewer mainline extension was installed on Marion Road? With this line in place they now need to develop customers to hook up and pay for it. This study will give the city its blessing to cater to the developers and those of us in the way pay the price for progress?” - Edward Vitse
- 10) “I’m especially interested in a small piece (3-5 acres) about a quarter mile east of the water tower [Rose Harbor] which has been a prime monarch migration site for many years. It might be worth saving if it is identified and managed.” – Greg Munson